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Title: Need to ensure proper warning displayed on Tobaco products.

SHRI BAIJAYANT JAY PANDA: Thank you Madam for giving this opportunity to speak on this important matter. Madam, more than one million Indians die every year from tobacco related illnesses and the cost to the country, in medical and health costs, is more than Rs.1,00,000 crore every year....(*Interruptions*) In this context, Madam, the Government issued a notification that from the 1st of April all tobacco packages must have larger pictorial warnings covering 85 per cent of the tobacco package....(*Interruptions*) This is very-very good. It has been delayed by one year. It was originally announced for 1st April of last year. It is very good but it is not enough because the Government apart from notifying it has to stand up and ensure that the lobbying and the pressure of the tobacco companies do not delay this. Some of them are indulging in pressure tactics....(*Interruptions*) I urge the Government, it is essential for them, to stand up and make a statement that this 85 per cent pictorial warning on tobacco packages will not be withdrawn and that it must be strictly implemented.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Rabindra Kumar Jena, Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra and Dr. Kirit P. Solanki are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Baijayant Panda.